

Application Serial No. 10/629,895
Amendment Dated 30 January 2006
Reply to Office Action of 29 November 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): An expression cassette containing an adenoviral VA1 promoter and a construct encoding an interfering RNA (RNAi) molecule, wherein the construct is operatively linked to the adenoviral VA1 promoter.

Claim 2 (original): The expression cassette of claim 1, wherein the RNAi encoding construct is contained within a non-essential stem region of the promoter.

Claim 3 (original): The expression cassette of claim 2, wherein the non-essential stem region contains a BstEII site.

Claim 4 (original): The expression cassette of claim 1, wherein the RNAi encoding construct is a construct encoding a hairpin siRNA (shRNA) or a microRNA (miRNA).

Claim 5 (original): The expression cassette of claim 1, wherein the RNAi encoding construct comprises a loop containing from about 4 to about 9 bases.

Claim 6 (original): The expression cassette of claim 5, wherein the loop contains about 8 bases.

Application Serial No. 10/629,895
Amendment Dated 30 January 2006
Reply to Office Action of 29 November 2005

Claim 7 (withdrawn/currently amended): A method for expressing an interfering RNA molecule in a mammalian cell, comprising introducing into the mammalian cell ~~a construct encoding an interfering RNA molecule operatively linked to an expression cassette of claim 1, wherein the adenoviral VA1 promoter sequence that directs the expression of said the construct in said cells the cell.~~

Claim 8 (withdrawn/currently amended): ~~The A method of claim 7, wherein the construct encoding the interfering RNA molecule is a construct encoding a hairpin siRNA (shRNA) or a microRNA (miRNA) for expressing an interfering RNA molecule in a mammalian cell, comprising introducing into the mammalian cell the expression cassette of claim 4, wherein the adenoviral VA1 promoter directs the expression of the construct in the cell.~~

Claim 9 (withdrawn/currently amended): ~~The A method of claim 7, wherein the RNAi encoding construct comprises a loop containing from about 4 to about 9 bases for expressing an interfering RNA molecule in a mammalian cell, comprising introducing into the mammalian cell the expression cassette of claim 5, wherein the adenoviral VA1 promoter directs the expression of the construct in the cell.~~

Claim 10 (withdrawn/currently amended): ~~The A method of claim 9, wherein the loop contains about 8 bases for expressing an interfering RNA molecule in a mammalian cell, comprising introducing into the mammalian cell the expression cassette of claim 6, wherein the adenoviral VA1 promoter directs the expression of the construct in the cell.~~

Claim 11 (original): A mammalian cell into which has been introduced a construct encoding an interfering RNA molecule operatively linked to an adenoviral VA1 promoter.

Application Serial No. 10/629,895
Amendment Dated 30 January 2006
Reply to Office Action of 29 November 2005

Claim 12 (original): The mammalian cell of claim 11, wherein the mammalian cell is a primary cell.